United Nations S/2014/671

Security Council

Distr.: General
18 September 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 16 September 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Further to our previous letters regarding the Sudanese national inclusive dialogue, I would like first to acknowledge the welcome and encouragement received so far from the Security Council for that process, namely the relevant provisions contained in Council resolution 2173 (2014), and to convey to you and through you to the esteemed members of the Security Council that the national dialogue is progressing on the right track in view of the high positive response of all the Sudanese political parties and civil society organs as well as the armed groups.

As we stated clearly in our previous letters and in our statement before the Security Council, the goals and objectives of this dialogue are to achieve constitutional, political and societal participation on the basis of consensus among all Sudanese in order to achieve the state of justice, good governance and an effective political system which will lead to overcoming the remaining crises and achieving lasting peace and stability.

For the purposes of successful proceedings of that dialogue, the Government of the Republic of the Sudan has granted all the necessary measures for confidence-building and a conducive environment, including, inter alia, the release of all political detainees, full political freedom and freedom of expression and press in order to conduct an inclusive, credible, transparent and nationally owned dialogue led by the Sudanese themselves.

In this regard, I have the honour to enclose herewith the agreed road map for the Sudanese national inclusive dialogue (see annex) as a concept to guide the deliberations, and having brought that to your kind attention, we reiterate our request to the Security Council to call once again upon all Sudanese parties and armed groups to engage constructively in this process and refrain from any action that may impede the smooth proceeding of this dialogue.

Finally, I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Rahamtalla Mohamed Osman **Elnor**
Permanent Representative

14-61203 (E) 260914

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 16 September 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic, English and French]

National dialogue conference

Under the motto "Sudan: a homeland for all"

Following the significant response of the political parties and their calling on each other for the meeting with the President of the Republic and the significant progress achieved by the national dialogue approach, a vision for a dialogue conference to move forward has emerged to implement the practical arrangements for the pace of the national dialogue.

First: goals and objectives of the dialogue

1. The establishment of constitutional, political and societal institutions within a framework of consensus among the Sudanese to create a just State, good governance and an effective political system.

2. Cooperation and advocacy among all Sudanese to overcome all the crises of the Sudan.

3. Consensus on the constitution and legislation that ensure freedom, rights, social justice and agreement on independent instruments for the protection of those rights.

4. Consensus on the legislation and procedures necessary to hold fair elections under the supervision of a politically, financially and administratively independent commission.

Second: requirements for a conducive environment and trust-building measures

1. (a) Release all political detainees; (b) ensure political freedom and full freedom of expression and publishing; (c) avoid hate speech and media squabbling among parties to the dialogue; (d) put in place the guarantees necessary for the personal safety of the members of armed movements who are to participate in the dialogue and a comprehensive ceasefire with full security arrangements.

2. The judiciary is the body concerned with the issues of publishing and expression, and exceptional procedures should not be adopted, particularly during the dialogue.

Third: basic principles of the dialogue

1. Inclusiveness with respect to participation and themes.

2. Transparency.

3. Adherence to and implementation of the outcomes.

Fourth: venue

Friendship Hall or any other place agreed upon.

Fifth: duration of the dialogue

One to three months.

Sixth: Chairperson

The President of the Republic shall chair the sessions. In his absence, the meeting shall be chaired by one of the political party leaders who is a member of the High Coordination Committee.

Seventh: the conference structures

1. The General Assembly.
2. The conference committees.
3. The High Coordination Committee.
4. The Secretariat General.

Eighth: composition and functions of the conference

1. **The General Assembly**

Membership of the conference

(a) The registered and informed political parties.

(b) The movements' signatories to the peace agreements.

(c) Armed movements which agree to participate in the dialogue.

(d) Fifty national figures, prominent figures and community leaders (to be agreed upon).

(e) Every party or movement shall be represented by one person, with another person as an alternate.

(f) Every party, movement or the national figures participating in the conference shall have one vote.

2. **Conference committees**

The conference shall form six committees to address the following issues:

(a) Peace and unity.

(b) Economy.

(c) Freedoms and basic rights.

(d) Identity.

(e) Foreign relations.

(f) Governance issues and the implementation of the dialogue outcomes.

- Every party or movement participating in the conference shall be represented by one person in any of the conference committees.
- The committees shall discuss the different themes and raise their recommendations to the High Coordination Committee to submit them to the assembly for discussion and approval.
- The committees shall be chaired by qualified experts (to be agreed upon).
- General sessions will put forward the recommendations.
- Closing session (declaration ceremony).

3. **High Coordination Committee**

7+7 of the parties' leaders or persons acting on their behalf in the Government and the opposition (the number can be increased equally upon agreement between the two parties).

Functions of the High Coordination Committee

(a) Determining the membership of the conference.

(b) Determining the themes of the conference.

(c) Coordinating the works of the committees.

(d) Overseeing the works of the Secretariat General.

(e) Promoting the national dialogues among the Sudanese people and others.

(f) Leading the dialogue to its conclusion.

(g) Following up on the implementation of the conference outcomes.

4. **The Secretariat General**

The Secretariat General shall be composed of experienced and competent national figures to be agreed upon (former diplomats, academicians of various universities, etc.)

Functions of the Secretariat General

(a) Following up on the sessions of the committees and the conference; taking notes on the proceedings, pointing out of agreements and differences and referring them to the High Coordination Committee.

(b) Providing studies, research and papers.

(c) Documenting the conference proceedings.

(d) Any other functions as assigned by the High Coordination Committee.

Ninth: decision-making process

The decisions of the conference shall be taken by consensus, or, where this is not possible, by a 90 per cent majority of the participants in a meeting for which there is a quorum.

Tenth: mechanisms for the implementation

Upon agreement on the outcomes of the dialogue, an executive mechanism and any other mechanisms shall be agreed upon to implement the outcomes of the dialogue.

Eleventh: conference media

Through a joint media committee of the two parties, official State media will be deployed to support the dialogue (establishment of website, conference logo, periodicals and statements of the spokesperson for the conference).

Twelfth: observers

Extend invitations to the African Union, the Arab League, the African Union High Executive Panel and any other organizations or persons to be agreed upon.

Thirteenth: compromisers

Agreement shall be reached on a number not exceeding five national figures as facilitators whose mission shall be to reconcile the differences between the parties to the dialogue.

Fourteenth: post-conference stage

Follow-up on the implementation of the conference outcomes through the High Coordination Committee with the President of the Republic.

Fifteenth: guarantee of the dialogue

The Sudanese will be the prime guarantors of the implementation of the dialogue outcomes.

Khartoum, 9 August 2014